

AMERUS GROUP CO/IA
Form 8-K
October 25, 2005

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

**CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT
TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported: October 24, 2005)

AMERUS GROUP CO.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

IOWA

001-15166

42-1458424

(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification
No.)

699 WALNUT STREET
DES MOINES, IOWA

50309-3948

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (515) 362-3600

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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ITEM 2.02. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

Press Release and Supplemental Information

On October 24, 2005, AmerUs Group Co. (Company) issued a press release reporting its financial results for the quarter ended September 30, 2005, which the Company is furnishing under this Item 2.02 as Exhibit 99.1, and posted on its website the supplemental information, which the Company is furnishing under this Item 2.02 as Exhibit 99.2. GAAP book value per share was \$40.17. As reported in the release, book value excluding accumulated other comprehensive income was \$39.51.

Third Quarter 2005 Earnings Call

On October 25, 2005, the Company reported the following, among other results, during its third quarter 2005 earnings call.

The Company reported that its unleveraged internal rate of return on new life business was 14 percent for the nine months ended September 30, 2005.¹ The Company's unleveraged internal rate of return on new annuity business was 11 percent for the nine months ended September 30, 2005.¹ In the aggregate, the Company's life and annuity product unleveraged internal rates of return are 12.5%. In addition, the Company reported that protection segment margins were 5.2 percent of reserves for the nine months ended September 30, 2005 compared to 4.7 percent of reserves for 2004.

¹ Based on statutory financial measures in accordance with insurance regulations applicable to the Company's insurance subsidiaries.

ITEM 7.01. REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

On October 25, 2005, the Company reported the following, among other matters, in its third quarter 2005 earnings call.

The Company plans to achieve its targeted unleveraged internal rate of return on new annuity business of 12 percent on future production, and the unleveraged internal rates of return on new life and annuity business are on target for the Company's plan for the year.

The Company stated that it is on track to meet its end of year plan for protection segment margins of 5.3 percent. Protection segment earnings remain on track to meet or exceed the Company's 2005 goal of \$160 million. Earnings for the accumulation segment also remain on track to meet or exceed the Company's 2005 goal of \$175 million.

Preliminary third quarter results show an expected risk based capital level of approximately 352%. The Company expects its year to date statutory earnings to be in the \$120 million range and to be at least \$150 million for the year.

This Report on Form 8-K and the exhibits hereto contain statements which constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements relating to trends in operations and financial results and the business and the products of the Company and its subsidiaries, as well as other statements including words such as anticipate, believe, plan, estimate, expect, intend and other similar expressions.

Forward-looking statements are made based upon management's current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effects on the Company. Such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by these forward-looking statements include, among others, the following possibilities: (a) general economic conditions and other factors, including prevailing interest rate levels and stock and bond market performance, which may affect our ability to sell our products, the market value of our investments and the lapse rate and profitability of policies; (b) our ability to achieve anticipated levels of operational efficiencies and cost-saving initiatives and to meet cash requirements based upon projected liquidity sources; (c) customer response to new products, distribution channels and marketing initiatives; (d) mortality, morbidity, and other factors which may affect the profitability of our insurance products; (e) our ability to develop and maintain effective risk management policies and procedures and to maintain adequate reserves for future policy benefits and claims; (f) changes in the federal income tax and other federal laws, regulations, and interpretations, including federal regulatory measures that may significantly affect the insurance business including limitations on antitrust immunity, the applicability of securities laws to insurance products, minimum solvency requirements, and changes to the tax advantages offered by life insurance and annuity products or programs with which they are used; (g) increasing competition in the sale of insurance and annuities and the recruitment of sales representatives; (h) regulatory changes, interpretations, initiatives or pronouncements, including those relating to the regulation of insurance companies and the regulation and sale of their products and the programs in which they are used; (i) our ratings and those of our subsidiaries by independent rating organizations which we believe are particularly important to the sale of our products; (j) the performance of our investment portfolios; (k) the impact of changes in standards of accounting; (l) our ability to integrate the business and operations of acquired entities; (m) expected protection products and accumulation

products margins; (n) the impact of anticipated investment transactions; and (o) litigation or regulatory investigations or examinations.

There can be no assurance that other factors not currently anticipated by the Company will not materially and adversely affect results of operations. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements made by the Company or on its behalf. Forward- looking statements speak only as of the date the statement was made. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement.

ITEM 9.01 (c). EXHIBITS

99.1 Press Release dated October 24, 2005 (furnished pursuant to Item 2.02).

99.2 Supplemental Information (furnished pursuant to Item 2.02).

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

AMERUS GROUP CO.

By: /s/ Melinda Urion
Melinda Urion
Executive Vice President,
Chief Financial Officer &
Treasurer

Dated: October 25, 2005

EXHIBITS

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|-------------|---|
| 99.1 | Press Release dated October 24, 2005 (furnished pursuant to Item 2.02). |
| 99.2 | Supplemental Information (furnished pursuant to Item 2.02). |